

101537483

- 12 -

JC17 Rec'd PCT/PTO 03 JUN 2005

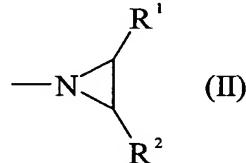
*as enclosed to IPER***We claim:**

5

1. A composition comprising at least one polyfunctional aziridine compound and 1,4-diazabicyclo[2.2.2]octane and a polar unreactive solvent, wherein the content of 1,4-diazabicyclo[2.2.2]octane is from 0,1 to 10 % by weight, based in each case on the composition.

10

2. A composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the polyfunctional aziridine compound contains at least two structural units of the formula (II)



15

where R^1 and R^2 , independently of one another, are each a hydrogen atom or an unfunctionalized or functionalized alkyl, alkenyl, aryl or aralkyl radical.

3. A composition as claimed in any of claims 1 to 2, wherein the content of solvent is from 1 to 50% by weight, based in each case on the composition.

20

4. A composition as claimed in any of claims 1 to 3, wherein the polyfunctional aziridine compound is selected from the group consisting of the Michael adducts of unsubstituted or substituted ethylenimine with α,β -unsaturated carboxylic esters of polyhydric alcohols and the adducts of unsubstituted or substituted ethylenimine with polyisocyanates.

25

5. A process for the preparation of a composition as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4, comprising the following process steps:

30

- (a) provision of a mixture of unsubstituted or substituted ethylenimine and 1,4-diazabicyclo[2.2.2]octane;

(b) addition of at least one polyhydric alcohol esterified with α,β -unsaturated carboxylic acids and/or of at least one polyisocyanate.

5 6. A process as claimed in claim 5, wherein the alcohol is selected from the group consisting of trimethylolpropane, neopentylglycol, glycerol, pentaerythritol, 4,4'-isopropylidenediphenol and 4,4'-methylenediphenol.

10 7. A process as claimed in claim 5 or 6, wherein the α,β -unsaturated carboxylic acid is selected from the group consisting of acrylic and methacrylic acid, crotonic acid and cinnamic acid.

15 8. A process as claimed in any of claims 5 to 7, wherein the polyisocyanate is selected from the group consisting of hexamethylene diisocyanate, 4,4'-methylenebis(phenyl isocyanate) and 1,3,5-tris(ω -hexamethyleneisocyanato)biuret.

16 9. A composition obtainable by a process as claimed in any of claims 5 to 8.

20 10. The use of a composition as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4 or 9 as a curing component for formulations in the area of leather treatment, of coatings, of textile printing and of surface coatings.

25 11. The use of 1,4-diazabicyclo[2.2.2]octane for stabilizing aziridine-containing compounds and compositions.

30 12. A leather treatment composition, coating composition, textile printing composition or surface coating, comprising a composition as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4 or 9 as a curing component.